

# JORDAN TIMES

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AMMAN, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1977 — RABIE AWAL 26, 1397

### U.S. embargo doesn't worry Smith

SALISBURY, March 15 (R). — Prime Minister Ian Smith said tonight the reimposition of the United States embargo on imports of Rhodesian chrome would have a minimal effect on his country's economy. Mr. Smith said the repeal of the amendment would be an example of the direct pressures applied to Rhodesia "designed to weaken our resistance." In a radio and television broadcast he said: "In fact the repeal will have a minimal effect on our economy. The Americans must be well aware of this but they presumably believe their action will weaken our resolve. They will find that their assessment was wrong."  
(See U.S. Senate votes — p. 6)

### Arab, industrialised nations boost U.N. development fund

GENEVA, March 15 (R). — Leading industrialised nations and three Arab oil-producing states today agreed in principle to boost a United Nations fund for helping poor countries by about 75 per cent to \$7.6 billion, diplomatic sources said. During a two-day meeting here, senior finance ministry officials from 23 industrialised states (including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates) agreed to step up allocations to a three-year fund of the United Nations International Development Association (IDA). The allocations, still to be formally put to the IDA's executive directors, will be used to provide the poorest developing countries with cheap loans.

## Arab prisoners in Ramleh jail begin hunger strike

PIED JERUSALEM, March 15 (R). — Several dozen Arab prisoners serving terms in Ramleh jail for security offences began a hunger strike today. Israeli prison authorities said the strike was planned to last 24 hours. The hunger strike started at the Ramleh jail, west of occupied Jerusalem, coincided with a similar 24-hour action by prisoners at Ramallah jail and Hebron jails to face the overcrowding situation. The Israeli prison authorities say they hold about 3,100 Arab prisoners of which close to 80 per cent are sentenced security offenders and the remainder common law prisoners or suspected security offenders awaiting trial. Israel jails currently also hold about 15 prisoners without trial under a British law which was in force here during the mandate period but which has never been repealed, the Israelis say.



THIS PLANE IS HIJACKED -- Armed plain-clothes policemen in Turin, Italy, Tuesday crowd under the plane hijacked by Italian mechanic Luciano Porcari. Mr. Porcari hijacked the Boeing 727 Monday over Barcelona and has made stopovers in Abidjan (Ivory Coast), Seville (Spain), Algiers, Tunis and Zurich. The plane carried 36 people originally most of whom were freed at the various stopovers. Mr. Porcari hijacked the plane in order to force authorities in Abidjan and Zurich to hand over to him his two illegitimate daughters living with their respective mothers in the two named cities. Mr. Porcari later ordered the plane to head to Moscow where he has promised to give himself up. (AP wirephoto).

## PLP denies softening stand on settlement

March 15 (AFP). — Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) denied there was any in its stand calling for the liberation of the whole of Palestine. A spokesman Bassam Abu said at a news conference that the PFLP's "any idea" that the "Front" had changed its stand was "false".

## Of Carter's remarks on M.E. Lebanese F.M. cautions against hasty judgement

BEIRUT, March 15 (R). — Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Boutros today cautioned against hasty judgement of President Jimmy Carter's suggestion of "defensible boundaries" for Israel. Mr. Boutros, who told reporters he received the full text of President Carter's statement yesterday, said his remarks raised more questions than they answered. At a news conference last week, President Carter said: "The recognised borders have to be mutual. The Arab nations, the Israeli nation, have to agree on permanent and recognised borders, where sovereignty is legal as mutually agreed. Defence lines may or may not conform in the foreseeable future to those legal borders." Mr. Boutros told a press statement: "It may be premature to say whether this attitude is final and rigid, because it cannot be so. It may be either a casual outlook or a sounding out, as is customary in international diplomacy."

## Indian opposition claims attack on Sanjay Gandhi an election gimmick

NEW DELHI, March 15 (R). — The main Indian opposition group today charged that an assassination attempt on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's younger son had been fabricated on the eve of the general elections. Government leaders said a deliberate attempt had been made on the life of 30-year-old Sanjay Gandhi last night while he was completing a campaign tour of his north Indian constituency. But the opposition Janata Party described the incident as a "stage-managed fabrication". "I am convinced that the incident just did not occur," Janata Party Secretary General Surendra Mohan told a crowded news conference here. He demanded an immediate judicial inquiry into the incident. Senior cabinet ministers and chief ministers of several states blamed the shooting on a psychosis of terror and violence which they said the opposition parties had whipped up. Voting takes place tomorrow for 300 of the 540 seats at stake in the new parliament, with some 190 million people eligible to cast their ballots. The remaining 240 contests will be decided over the next four days. First results will be announced when polling is completed across the country on Sunday evening.

## Syria seeks revival of Soviet aid

DAMASCUS, March 15 (R). — Syria hopes that President Hafez Assad's forthcoming visit to Moscow will lead to the revival of Soviet military and economic aid, political sources said here. They said this aid has been cut to the minimum since mid-1976 when Syrian troops moved into Lebanon in force at the very moment when Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin was in Damascus. President Assad is expected to go to Moscow before he meets U.S. President Jimmy Carter in Europe early in May, he last visited the Soviet capital in October 1975. Official sources said the arrangement of Mr. Assad's visit to Moscow follows two months of diplomatic activity by Soviet Ambassador Nuretdin Mukhitdinov and other envoys.

## Chirac will be mayor of Paris

PARIS, March 15 (R). — Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac is expected to be elected mayor of Paris on Sunday after striking a deal today with the rival government candidate nominated by President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. The agreement between M. Chirac and Industry Minister Michel d'Ornano was designed to prevent the post, ranked third after the presidency and the premiership for power, from falling to the leftwing opposition. The pact obliges each man to withdraw from Sunday's second round of voting in precincts where he trailed his rival in the first round last Sunday. M. Chirac had a decisive edge over M. d'Ornano in 11 of the 18 districts in the first round, and the two men together won just over half the votes. The agreement helped to defuse tension in government ranks but fell far short of a reconciliation between the president and M. Chirac, whose rivalry has been intensifying since the Gaullist chief resigned as premier in a policy dispute last August.

## Security Council defers M.E. debate

UNITED NATIONS, March 15 (R). — The Security Council today agreed to give priority to African issues, beginning with debate on the Rhodesia situation next Friday, and to defer consideration of the Middle East question. Egyptian Ambassador Ismat Abdul Meguid said yesterday he wanted an early council meeting to consider the failure of efforts so far to reconvene the Geneva peace conference. But, after a private meeting of council members today, under the presidency of U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young, a U.N. spokesman announced that priority would go to African questions. Diplomatic sources said black African states were unwilling to have the Middle East situation debated first. These sources also said it appeared unlikely that the council would deal with the Middle East until April. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim will be away from March 30 until about the second week of April and members would want him present when they consider his report on his recent Middle East peace mission, the sources added. These, in order, are the questions the council agreed today to debate: The Rhodesia situation, March 18, Benin's complaint of aggression committed by foreign mercenaries, on a date after completion of the South Africa debate, the Middle East, also after the South Africa debate, on a date to be decided later. Diplomatic sources said the council would probably defer until June consideration of the situation in Namibia (Southwest Africa) and its meetings on that question might be held somewhere in Africa -- possibly Port Louis, Mauritius, or Gaberone, Botswana. President Carter will visit the U.N. on Thursday to address representatives of member states and others. There have been advance indications that he may take the opportunity to express a firmer U.S. policy against apartheid and the white minority government in Rhodesia.

## Palace adviser Sultan Lutfi says in interview Tax, labour policies can help offset grim social consequences of inflation

rich upper class benefits from the fruits of inflation while the middle and lower class people with fixed incomes are caught in a difficult and dangerous squeeze. He related the inflation and labour worries by pointing out that a country normally has a "cushion" of unemployed people who can be brought into the labour force when they are needed in times of an economic boom. Jordan, with full employment, no longer has this pool of reserve workers. It is this cushion, Mr. Lutfi said, that is often used to fill in the shortages in the labour force as well as to keep wages and salaries stable to counter inflationary pressures. With Jordan's peculiar labour force structure (high emigration rate, low participation by women, low percentage of working people in relation to the entire population) the country does not have many courses of remedial action open to it. Mr. Lutfi explained: "We cannot afford our inflation rate with our full employment situation, but we have few options. We'd like to retain our skilled workers here in Jordan where they would keep the economic wheels of the country running and would generate more income than they now send back from their jobs in the oil-producing states. I think the estimate that we lost 25 per cent of our skilled workers last year is about right. Once we were pleased by the fact that our work force could find work abroad and send money back here, but we're not pleased any more. There's only one way we can really make up for them today, which is to mobilise the untrained and unskilled workers in the country. The other options are to cut back on our projects and our goals, which we cannot afford to do, or to pay people the high salaries they get abroad, which we also cannot afford. Therefore the last option is the only feasible one -- to use our unskilled workers, which includes the move to bring more Jordanian women into the labour force. "We've made a fundamental shift in our educational philosophy, so that by 1980 over 35 per cent of our high school graduates will have gone through curricula that stress vocational training. We've also

## Khleifawi arrives here today

DAMASCUS, March 15 (R). — Syrian Prime Minister Maj. Gen. Abdul Rahman Khleifawi leaves for Amman tomorrow for talks with Jordanian leaders on the Middle East situation and further steps towards a possible union between the two states, officials said here today. The officials said the Prime Minister would be accompanied by Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

## Forlani on last leg of Mideast tour

BEIRUT, March 15 (R). — Italian Foreign Minister Arnaldo Forlani arrived here today for a short visit to Lebanon as part of a Middle Eastern tour. Mr. Forlani, who has already visited Egypt and Syria, will have talks with Lebanese Foreign Minister Fuad Boutros on bilateral relations and the Middle East crisis. He will also be received by President Elias Sarkis before leaving for home. Before leaving Damascus airport Mr. Forlani spoke to reporters about Italy's role in solving the middle east problem. He said: "We want to participate in all initiatives aiming at finding a just and durable peace in the region." "We in Italy believe that Syria's attitude is decisive in creating suitable conditions for peace. I am confident that President Assad works for finding peaceful conditions," he added.

## Police clash with Karachi demonstrators

ISLAMABAD, March 15 (R). — Police fought running battles in the streets of Karachi for several hours today to break up opposition demonstrations calling for the resignation of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and fresh general elections. At least 30 people were reported to have been hurt in demonstrations in Karachi, Lahore and Multan on the second day of a nationwide protest movement launched by the opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA). Opposition sources claimed there had been widespread arrests of PNA officials and supporters involved in the mass agitation campaign. The nine-party alliance called for a mass movement to protest against what it charged were rigged elections last week which returned Mr. Bhutto and his ruling Pakistan people's party (PPP) to power. The PNA leadership said the movement would continue until Mr. Bhutto handed over power to a caretaker government and fresh elections were held under army supervision.

## Basque separatists warn Spanish cabinet: We will tolerate no more deaths

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, March 15 (R). — The Basque nationalist guerrilla organisation ETA virtually declared war on the Spanish government today after a five-month ceasefire. In a communique, the ETA blamed the government for political violence which has claimed four lives in the Basque region in a week. The communique was distributed as armed riot police patrolled San Sebastian a few hours before the funeral of a 20-year-old youth, hit by a police rubber bullet during a demonstration last Saturday. The ETA said the government was solely to blame for the violence, but added: "We will not renounce violence and leave our people undefended from the murderous rubber bullets of the police and civil guard." It said the shooting of three parliamentary civil guards, one of whom died, in the village of Mondragon last Sunday had been carried out to avenge the police killing of two ETA guerrillas five days before. "We are not ready to tolerate any more deaths," the communique said. "We will not use violence, to upset democracy -- but only if a real democracy and real freedom is established and all repressive fascist forces have been dissolved." The ETA said it would refrain from violence if all political prisoners were released under amnesty measures announced by the government last week. San Sebastian's mayor, Senor Fernando de Otazu y Zulueta, today appealed for calm in the elegant summer resort and asked citizens not to provoke the security forces "in order to avoid police excesses and in some cases inexplicable repression." Thousands of students and teachers today obeyed calls for a general strike in protest at the death of the 20-year-old student on Saturday. Most shops and factories, however, ignored the fifth call for a general strike in 10 days in the Basque region. The Spanish cabinet was meanwhile meeting to draw up rules for general elections in June, but the meeting was overshadowed by the outburst of political violence in the Basque country and rioting in the Canary Island of Tenerife. In Tenerife, rioting students and unemployed workers fought police with firebombs and stones in the town of Laguna during the night. Shouting slogans for the independence of the Canary Islands, the demonstrators burned buses, overturned cars, sacked shops and set fire to the state Labour Union Office. In Madrid, informed sources said the cabinet was putting the finishing touches to a new electoral law which would require officials to resign if they wanted to run in the elections. The law was expected to lead to a cabinet reshuffle as some ministers including the Vice Premier, Senor Alfonso Osorio, have shown inclinations to form a political party. The sources said a major preoccupation of Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez was to thwart a rightwing or leftwing victory at the polls and to ensure a centrist majority in the new parliament.

## Israel will tell Genscher: EEC "should not" interfere in Middle East politics

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 15 (R). — Israel will tell West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who arrives tomorrow on a short visit, that the European Economic Community (EEC) should not interfere in Middle Eastern politics, government officials said today. The officials said they were very anxious to hear Herr Genscher's impressions of his recent visits to Arab countries. Herr Genscher will meet Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Defence Minister Shimon Peres before leaving on Friday. Middle East problems will figure prominently, and Israel will inform Herr Genscher that EEC interference in the area's political affairs is not conducive to reaching an understanding between Israel and the Arabs, Israeli sources said. In a separate development from Herr Genscher said today on his return from Washington that he and American officials reached "broad agreement concerning the important problems." He said that his talks with President Jimmy Carter included the subject of West Germany's contract to sell nuclear power plants to Brazil.

## Arab, industrialised nations boost U.N. development fund

GENEVA, March 15 (R). — Leading industrialised nations and three Arab oil-producing states today agreed in principle to boost a United Nations fund for helping poor countries by about 75 per cent to \$7.6 billion, diplomatic sources said. During a two-day meeting here, senior finance ministry officials from 23 industrialised states (including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates) agreed to step up allocations to a three-year fund of the United Nations International Development Association (IDA). The allocations, still to be formally put to the IDA's executive directors, will be used to provide the poorest developing countries with cheap loans.

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# King Hussein to preside over Teachers' Day

AMMAN (JNA). — His Majesty King Hussein will give a speech Tuesday at the celebration of the Palace of Culture marking Teachers' Day, which he is presiding over.

The King will also bestow decorations upon some 50 male and female teachers in appreciation of the role they have played in advancing Jordan's education. Minister of Education Abdul Salam al-Najjar will also give a speech.

## Amendments introduced to law on state land

AMMAN (JNA). — The ministerial committee entrusted with amending the law concerning state lands Monday convened and ratified the amendments as well as introducing a new system for renting these lands.



Prince Hassan emerges with Agriculture Minister Salah Jum'ah Tuesday after discussions at the ministry on agricultural development projects (JNA photo).

## Prince Hassan meets agriculture minister

AMMAN (JNA). — Prince Hassan Tuesday discussed with the Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'ah progress made in agricultural development projects, and

the relationship that should exist between the farmers' union in Jordan Valley areas and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Discussions centred on projects to resettle bedouin tribes in the highland areas; rain-fed agricultural projects in particular in the Irbid governorate; agricultural development projects in the Bani Hassan villages, which Prince Hassan visited Sunday; and progress at the experimental dairy farm in Dhuleil.

The Crown Prince gave directives on all these subjects, stressing the need to provide the farmers with all necessary services to enable them to raise their production.

Prince Hassan also paid a visit to Amman town hall and listened to a report by the mayor on municipality work and plans, as well as its financial position.

## In-depth study to be made into Arab economies

CAIRO, March 15 (JNA). — The General Secretariat of the Arab Economic Unity Council, now meeting here, has formed 15 teams of planning experts to prepare comprehensive studies on the economies of the Arab countries.

The Council's Secretary General, Dr. Abdul Aal Al Sakban, stated that each study will draw an exact picture of the characteristics of each Arab country in terms of geography, natural resources, population, manpower and important economic activities.

Each study will define the development projects each Arab country is implementing, their aims, possible future benefits through an increase in gross national product, and whether it is agricultural or industrial in nature. Each team will prepare a detailed survey of the most important economic sectors in each country.

## DR. AL SABBAGH NAMED HEAD OF FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (R). — Dr. Hashem Mohammad Al Sabbagh has been appointed head of the financial market, due to start operations in Amman in June.

The appointment of the former head of the accountancy department at the University of Jordan as President of the Board of Directors and General Manager of the market was confirmed by the Council of Ministers Sunday evening.

## CENTRAL BANK APPROVES FOREIGN BANK OFFICES

AMMAN (JNA). — The Central Bank has approved the opening of a number of representative offices by foreign banks and finance companies.

The Chief of the Research Section at the Central Bank, Dr. Jawad Anani, said Tuesday these offices will carry out banking and monetary operations in the country in place of the institutions they represent. They cannot operate to gain profit.

Dr. Anani said the duty of the offices is to bolster relations and dealings between their headquarters and local banks and firms, and to act as intermediaries between Jordanian companies and foreign companies in order to facilitate and follow up banking deals concerning loans, credit or assistance provided by the foreign companies to any Jordanian one.

# Integration with Syria to receive boost Talks start on far-reaching industrial coordination

AMMAN (JNA). — The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Committee for Industrial Coordination began its meeting at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce here Tuesday with the aim of completing industrial coordination and integration steps currently underway between the two countries, and providing high-quality industrial commodities at reasonable prices.

The Jordanian-Syrian discussions aim to coordinate and integrate industries in both countries, whose total capital exceeds JD 2 million. The meeting will also strive for unification of customs duties on raw materials used in similar industries in the two countries and of tax and duty exemptions including income tax on industrial development projects.

Welcoming his Syrian counterparts, the Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Dr. Hashem Dabbas, expressed the hope that the committee meeting would achieve positive results.

The head of the Syrian team, Mr. Nazeh Raslan, Under-Secretary at the Syrian Ministry of Industry, underlined the need for concentrating on industrial coordination and integration, because "any unity between the two countries should be built on well-studied, firm and sound foundations."

The two sides presented lists of capital industries in their respective countries.

The Jordanian team is composed of Dr. Dabbas, Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Customs Yassin Al Kayed and other competent officials.

The Syrian team consists of Mr. Raslan and representatives of industrial sectors in Syria.

In an interview in Damascus Monday, Mr. Raslan stated that industrial coordination between Jordan and Syria will in the long run be very advantageous for both countries in the sense that there will be no competition between the two countries and factories will have the opportunity to look for raw materials in both Jordan and Syria. In addition, a joint market will be ensured. Coordination will also give them the chance to dispense with many imported materials.

Mr. Raslan stated that talks with Dr. Dabbas, will centre on industrial coordination and in particular on the fertilizer, chemical food and textile industries.

The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Industrial Company, with a capital of JD 20 million, has been entrusted with establishing a number of joint projects, including a factory for ready-made clothes now being implemented in Damascus, a white cement plant with a productive capacity of 100,000 tonnes annually, a clay-tiles factory and a fire-proof brick factory in Jordan, and an aluminium factory in Syria, Mr. Raslan explained.

The Syrian under-secretary added that the Amman meeting is the second held by the Committee for Industrial Coordination. The first meeting, which took place in Damascus in January, studied the present industrial situation and future projects within the context of the five-year development plans of both countries, for which a sum of JD 4 million has been allocated.

## New customs exemptions approved

AMMAN (JNA). — The Cabinet, under Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Sunday approved new customs exemptions, which included raw materials used in similar industries in both Jordan and Syria.

Under-Secretary at the Finance Ministry Yassin Al Kayed said these raw materials, which had not been exempted previously, include sulphur products, ready-made clothes, furniture and hides. It was also agreed to exempt medicine and petroleum-derived products.

## NOV. 1976 EXPORTS SHOW IMPROVEMENT

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan's exports totalled JD 3,572,000 in November 1976 as against JD 3,426,000 in October of the same year. Imports for the same periods totalled JD 33,746,000 as against JD 28,615,000.

Most important among Jordan's exports were raw phosphate, fruit, drugs, vegetables, cigarettes and fertilisers.

## Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

U.K. sterling	573.0	579.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	139.2	139.6
French franc	66.8	67.1
Swiss franc	130.4	130.8
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.4	37.6
Saudi riyal	93.7	94.0
Lebanese pound	108.9	109.4
Syrian pound	82.1	82.3
Iraqi dinar	943.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,150	1,154
Egyptian pound	462.0	470.0
Libyan dinar	800.0	810.0
UAE dirham	85.0	85.3

## WARNING! BOIL YOUR WHITE CHEESE

AMMAN (JNA). — The Amman municipality has called white cheese dealers and habitants to boil this food-off before eating it. Laboratory tests have proved that the cheese is contaminated. The municipality has ready destroyed large quantities of foodstuffs sold in markets, which proved unfit for consumption. Legal action has been taken against the dealers.

## Seminar on role of writer underway

AMMAN (JNA). — A three-day seminar on the Jordanian writer started Monday at the headquarters of the Jordanian writers society.

The participants in the seminar will discuss the role of the writer and radio in publicizing work of the Jordanian writer.

## Agriculture meet opens in Baghdad

BAHRAIN, March 15 (JNA). — Third Conference of the Arab Agricultural Engineers began its meeting here Tuesday under the slogan "Arab integration and the human element in rural development."

The conference will debate a number of factors affecting the human element, in addition to rural and cooperative organizations and the elimination of illiteracy, and their effects on Arab rural development and agricultural integration.

The meeting is attended by delegations representing professional agricultural bodies in the Arab Union. Jordan is represented by the Association of Jordanian Agricultural Engineers.

## What's Going On

A film entitled "Sleuth", starring Lawrence Olivier and Michael Caine, 6:30 p.m., at the Fish Council, Jabal Amman.

## NATIONAL NOTES

\* AMMAN. — Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar Tuesday evening left here on a visit to Saudi Arabia at the invitation of his Saudi counterpart. Mr. Arar said before leaving that he will conduct talks with the Saudi minister of interior, which will strengthen relations between the two countries.

\* AMMAN. — The Foreign Ministry Tuesday received a cable from Bucharest confirming that all Jordanian students in the Romanian town of Kluj are safe after the recent earthquake. No one was injured, it continued.

\* AMMAN. — Jordanian-Algerian talks are due to begin in Algiers Wednesday aimed at concluding a bilateral aviation agreement.

\* AMMAN. — The General Assembly of the Union of Arab Tourism and Travel Organisations will meet here on May 13 to discuss ways of encouraging the tourist trade in the Arab countries.

\* CAIRO. — The Arab League will celebrate its 32nd anniversary next Tuesday. The League's Secretary General Mahmoud Riad will speak on the development of joint Arab action and shed light on a number of current issues, particularly concerning Arab efforts at the African and international levels.

\* AMMAN. — A group of policewomen will visit Bahrain and Oman March 17-25 to implement recommendations passed by Arab public security departments to develop relations and exchange police expertise.

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# The Shah of Iran takes time out to reassess assets hoping to move out of oil dependence



The Shah of Iran examining his troops.

TEHRAN, (CSM). — Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi of Iran intends to restore cuts in defence spending as soon as Iran's recently diminished oil revenues allow and to maintain Iran's efforts to move away from dependence on oil.

Iran's draft 1977-78 budget shows defence spending cuts for the first time since 1941, although they are reduced only 2 per cent. One multibillion-dollar project suspended is the Shah Bahar naval base complex on Iran's Indian Ocean coast.

In a 45-minute interview touching on oil, defence, the world economy, and relations with the Soviet Union, the Shah said he would restore the defence cuts when oil revenues warrant because he intended to continue his "eastward-looking" defence policy to protect the Gulf and Indian Ocean approaches.

This, he said, is "a natural policy for Iran today but especially for Iran in 5 or 10 years' time."

The Shah said he thinks the industrial states will finally agree that oil must cost more in order to encourage development of other energy resources.

He confirmed that Iran's oil exports in February recovered strongly from their January slump, when buyers seemed to be turning to cheaper Saudi oil.

He said, "We are selling a lot more oil than on Jan. 1" at the higher price. Iran and 10 other OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) producers decided in December to increase the price by 10 per cent as of Jan. 1 and by another 5 per cent in July. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates raised their price only 5 per cent.

"We now have additional customers," the Shah said. "The meaning of this is probably that the 5 per cent Saudi charge goes only in the pocket of a few companies. The rest of the people need the oil, and they pay the price."

He recalled that before the December oil price increases, United States financial circles had predicted a 10 per cent rise as "normal" and said it would not have a great effect on Western economies. But a new OPEC meeting or new contacts before July to end the two-price system were desirable, he added.

Iran's ruler recalled warnings he had given the West over five years ago about wasting crude oil resources, of which Iran has enough — about 68 billion barrels proven reserves — to last for another 30 to 35 years at current production rates.

"Everybody," he said, "is going to open his eyes and realise that to replace oil with other energy sources, you will have to pay the corresponding price."

"Why should you go for other substitutes, if you have cheap oil at your disposal for the next 20 to 25 years? What incentive do you have to invest these hundreds of billions of dollars needed to make breakthroughs into fusion, and solar and other energy sources?"

"We increased the price of oil about four times in 1973. Since that day, Americans went into much larger cars than before the price increases. And now you're importing 51 per

cent of your needs in oil from outside, and a 6 to 7 per cent increase in this year's (U.S.) consumption is predicted.

"I told your responsible people before that I, as a friend of the U.S., allow myself to tell you that you, as representatives of the non-communist world, don't have the right to depend on outside energy sources."

The Shah added that he was encouraged by President Carter's move in setting up an energy panel to be headed by Vice-President Walter F. Mondale and by predictions of a new U.S. energy policy to be announced this spring.

As Iran moves increasingly into natural gas, petrochemicals, and other sources of energy and income, it will increase its own domestic gasoline prices annually for the next six years, he disclosed, "just to make people conscious of the value of oil."

He reiterated his view that the world industrial economy is not pushed into recession or depression because oil prices are raised too high.

"We know," he said, "how the Japanese recovered, in one year — so much that the Europeans are terribly fearful about the Japanese price for ships. And the Japanese import not just oil, but everything."

Western economic problems

stem from "lack of discipline" and the will to work, whereas in Iran, he said, "you don't have one minute of labour strikes" and workers enjoy profit-sharing and investment schemes.

The Shah personally decided the defence cuts at the last minute while raising spending for education and social services by 25 to 30 per cent.

Referring to his "eastward-looking" defence policy, the Shah asked: "Without bragging or being chauvinistic, who else could do that job? We have the people, the finances, and the resources, and a foreign policy which is unselfish and aiming only at security. We don't want territory or other people's wealth."

He said dangers in the Red Sea area, with Ethiopia rent by internal strife and France preparing to give up its base at Djibouti, Afar-Issa Territory, strengthened his concern about an "eastward-looking" defence policy.

Asked about President Carter's plan for a world economic summit conference and the "North-South dialogue" between industrial and developing states, he said the North-South meetings have not progressed because "in the West, your whole prosperity has been based on exploitation of the resources of other countries."



"Are you prepared to give a little of that up? I don't know," he continued. "If you have strong governments with a mandate, if they ask their people to work more and earn less, if necessary, even to lower their standard of living ... it's too high because you are exploiting the rest of the world. Could you produce that kind of leadership?"

The Shah indicated no important U.S. arms purchase cutbacks were intended in a program estimated at 15 billion dollars since 1972. The programme includes purchase of Grumman F-14 fighter aircraft, an order for 160 General Dynamics F-16's (the Shah has wanted to buy 300) and interest in the F-18L, a land-based version of the Northrop F-18A being built for carrier-based U.S. Navy operations.

The U.S. Defense Department has not approved the F-18L programme yet.

"It's not a question," the Shah said, "of the U.S. selling something you do not have yourselves. And for the air superiority fighter, you have the F-15, but that's too expensive for us, so we go for the F-18 ... to replace the present F-4s. I don't see why I should be refused it."

The Shah indicated he is maintaining the order for four U.S. Litton Industries Spruance-class destroyers, "and it's a pity we had to cancel two of them" from an original order of six after costs escalated. (Litton Industries is reported to be interested in a barter deal to buy Iranian oil in return for destroyers, similar to barter deals already completed between Iran and the British Aircraft Corporation and Krupp Industries in West Germany.)

He confirmed that Iranian land forces are withdrawing on schedule from Oman, where they helped the ruler, Sultan Qabus, crush a guerrilla revolt based in nearby South Yemen. Iranian air surveillance, mainly sorties flown from bases in Iran, continue in the strategic Hormuz Straits area.

"We will go back if the Sultan really needs us," the Shah said. "We save money by

bringing those boys home we will not jeopardise the security of Oman for peace reasons."

In his first public comment on the "Ibex affair," in the U.S. corporation Ros International's project and two technicians were derailed last August by gulas (Rockwell is installing top-secret electronic intelligence network along the Viet-Iranian border) the said published U.S. report he had attributed the matter to the Soviets were in

"Certainly, that was not way it was put. Certainly and 'as for the Ibez, we have no complaint."

He said he was sure was not getting "junk" as the Washington ports had said. Other U.S. literary contractors in Iran performing generally well, although some had to charge to Iran "a fairly large" salaries for personnel.

He charged that U.S. media distort problems of Iranians in Iran. When U.S. security arrested guerrillas who had killed the Roman and other U.S. persons "you talk about the human rights of the terrorists but about the human rights, you killed," he said.

## State run pensions come under attack by South African life insurance companies

People are living longer and birth rates are falling. Which means that there are ever more old people in the population, putting an increasing burden on pension funds. The question is not just how to provide for them, but how to do it in a way that is fair to all the populace.

well-nigh impossible to predict where the introduction of the proposed scheme will eventually end."

When he said that, Mr. van der Horst could well have been taking a sideways look at the British scheme. The original Pensions Act, first introduced in Britain in 1908, has undergone so many changes and modifications, with many more mooted, that it is feared the total cost may soon escalate out of control.

The reason is simply that people are living longer, while birth rates are falling. So fewer working people will have to pay more and more to support ever-growing numbers of the retired.

That is a practical worry. But Mr. van der Horst also has ideological antagonisms. "A state contributory pensions scheme is completely socialist in concept in that, because it will be government-controlled and will affect the whole population, it will remove from the people the personal incentive to provide for their own future."

It is true that, even in Europe, where state pension schemes evolved, many people would prefer to control their own future welfare and provide their own pensions. But there must be some concern in a humane community for those people who have never been in a position to provide for their old age.

The South African insurance companies are also worried that, at least for the first ten or twenty years of any state scheme, the private schemes could not compete.

The short answer to that from many critics of the free

enterprise approach is, "Why should they?" If a state scheme is properly run, they argue, there should be no need for any private enterprise scheme.

But that ignores some wider issues. Many people, even with the certainty of a state pension, like to put something by during their working lives to improve the "twilight years." In a fair society, it is argued, they should not be denied this right.

Much more urgent is the issue of what happens when the costs of state schemes start rising, as inevitably they do. This is because of inflation, the expanding numbers of people entitled to benefit and because a growing insurance fund gets more difficult to increase in proportion as its size increases.

Contributions must earn more money in relation to the total amount paid in so that benefits can keep pace.

When that happens the state will often, for political reasons, subsidise the fund rather than increase the workers' contribution rates to a "commercial" level.

Thus the true cost of a state pension scheme is often hidden, although critics claim that the cost of state schemes, because of top-heavy bureaucratic administration, will always be higher than that of soundly run private schemes.

The trouble with private schemes on the other hand, is that they are often inadequate. Employers do not offer plans for their staff, and when an individual takes an initiative on his own, there is no contribution from the company — a point most state schemes insist on.

Amid all the conflicting viewpoints the searcher for an ideal state scheme will hunt in vain. German social insurance started under the Iron Chancellor, Bismarck, who could hardly be called a devout socialist. The original sickness benefit was extended until it offered a pension, based on a complicated system which is now claimed by most Germans to be totally inadequate.

The majority of other European countries, except Britain, have schemes based on the German model, although differing in detail. Britain runs a system whereby every person who has made the necessary number of weekly contributions during his or her working life gets a basic pension — currently £15.30 for a single person or £24.50 for a married couple.

There are supplementary benefits for people who cannot manage on that, and as the average weekly wage in Britain today is around £60, few think the pension adequate.

But soon to be introduced in Britain is a new type of earnings-related pension with earnings-related contributions, although full details have yet to be worked out.

One thing does seem clear: if companies can offer better pension schemes than the state plan, then workers can opt out of the state scheme. On the other hand a person may stay in a company scheme which falls below state standards and qualify for as many as three different pensions — state basic, state additional and occupational.

On the face of it, this concept seems to satisfy most criteria, except to cater for those people who believe they can make the best provision for their own old age without any interference from anyone.

The weakness of state schemes is that very often they become expensive for what they offer; also, they smack of compulsion because everyone, with

ing or not, is drawn into them, and too often they become political footballs.

The trouble with private or company schemes is that they do not contain enough people within their net. They can provide fine benefits for those who can afford to pay for them, but nothing for those who most

need them. And too often are of little value to those change jobs, countries or even several times over, a working lifetime.

Perhaps South Africa has a chance against all the odds to prove that with a properly devised pensions scheme, who need it really get it.

Organised labour even fits from inflation. It has enough political and industrial bargaining power to keep ahead of it — ahead, that is, until it reaches the runaway, where even organised labour begins to get hurt.

So what? Does it matter that the middle class is being squeezed? Would it be any great loss to mankind in general if the middle class simply disappeared and nothing was left but the very rich and organised labour?

In Britain and Italy there isn't much time left for doing anything about it. The United States still does have time to think about this phenomenon of present-day events and time to do something about it — if it chooses to do so.

Definitions differ over what makes up a "middle class." I think of it as that segment of the population which is able to put aside enough during the working years to be able to live in human dignity during retirement years.

Another attribute of the middle class is a desire for education and for the enjoyment of the cultural values which education permits. Middle-class people will sacrifice almost everything else to send their children to the best sources for higher education.

Sir Winston certainly thought that he was leaving enough money to provide a comfortable living for his dear departed wife after he was gone. He could not have foreseen the ravages which inflation would work on her funds.

Now she is reduced to selling pieces of family silver and some of his most treasured early paintings to keep herself in reasonable dignity.

That same ravage is undermining the whole of the middle class in Britain. Among my own personal friends there are several who retired thinking they had ahead of them such amenities as travel and winter homes in sunny climes.

Inflation has eaten up their winter homes and their funds for travel, and also their capacity to help their children and grandchildren to the kind of better education they themselves usually enjoyed.

We do not hear much about this condition because there is little sympathy for the middle classes from either above or below. Also the middle class is not organised, as labour is. Nor does it have enough wealth to buy political favour as the rich can.

Both the very rich and organised labour are able to escape the ravages of inflation.

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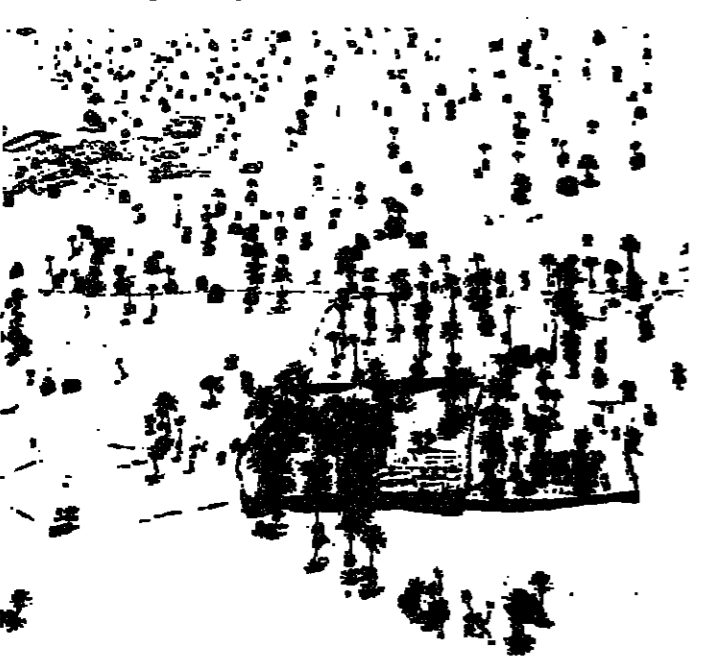
## Germans play role in helping to make the Sahara bloom

BONN (DaD) — Now the water table beneath the parched expanses of the Sahara has been tapped geologists reckon the desert's days are numbered. With an estimated sixty billion cubic metres of fresh water ready and waiting 1,000 metres underground the Sahara can be made to bloom.

Unesco project, boring wells, establishing reservoirs, building windbreaks, roads, power lines, schools and community centres. But the nerve centre of every community is the pipeline that bears water to standpipes and irrigation devices.

Firms and engineers from the Federal Republic of Germany are playing their part in a

flexible cast iron pipes with simple but reliable socket joints prove ideally suited for desert use. Semi-skilled nomads set up one pipe-laying record after another.



With water 1000 metres under the sand the Sahara can become productive with proper development.

## Mexican oil finds bring new hopes to the Americas

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM). — Mexico is floating on a sea of oil. Recent petroleum discoveries suggest that Mexico is likely to become the Western Hemisphere's biggest oil producer in the near future — a development of major importance for the energy-short United States next door.

The size of the finds was outlined at 65 billion barrels, which are six times those of Alaska's North Slope.

New finds, particularly in northern Mexico which have yet to be surveyed, could boost the total to 100 billion barrels in the near future.

There are numerous questions about the accessibility of the oil, the time needed to develop the new finds, and the ability of Petroleos Mexicanos, the state oil monopoly, to exploit the vast reservoir of oil. But the disclosures indicate that the world energy picture may have to be reassessed.

In addition to the oil discoveries, vast related quantities of natural gas have been located, expanding gas reserves "many-fold." But no exact estimate has been made of the natural gas reserves.

Mexican energy policy is focused on developing these new oil and natural gas finds as quickly as possible. Moreover, Mexico indicates that the U.S. could become the major beneficiary of the oil and natural gas bonanzas.

Just before his state visit to Washington, Mr. Lopez Portillo

announced that Mexico would approve deliveries of 40 million cubic feet of natural gas a day for two months to the U.S. That is a relatively small amount, and Mexican officials describe it as "a drop in the pipeline," but one that "could become a trickle, then a flow, and even a torrent."

Leaving room for hyperbole, it is evident that a good portion of Mexico's current and future oil and natural gas production will be sold to the U.S.

The issue came up during the discussions President Lopez Portillo had with President Carter.

Just how the Mexican oil flow will affect the U.S. dependency on imported oil from the member nations of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is unclear.

But Mexico, while generally following the OPEC price structure, is not an OPEC member, nor does it plan to become one.

The major Mexican oil finds are concentrated in the southern Mexican states of Tabasco, Chiapas, and Campeche. Many of them are connected geologically with the old Reforma field that had been petering out in recent years.

Digging deeper and in related areas, Mexican oil geologists five years ago began to sink a number of new wells.

As exploration continued, Mexican sources say, the size of the finds grew rapidly.

At that point in 1975, Mexico clamped a policy of secrecy on the exploration — and only hinted at the size of the discoveries.

Currently oil exploration is also under way in Baja California, as well as in the northern states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas.



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### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
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Neither vulnerable. South leads.

- NORTH**  
 ♠ A 8 6 5 4  
 ♥ Q 8 7 4 2  
 ♦ A 10  
 ♣ 8
- WEST**  
 ♠ 10  
 ♥ 10 3  
 ♦ J 9 7 5 4 3  
 ♣ 10 6 5 4
- EAST**  
 ♠ J 7  
 ♥ K J 6  
 ♦ K 8 6 2  
 ♣ K 7 3 2
- SOUTH**  
 ♠ K Q 9 3 2  
 ♥ A 9 5  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ A Q J 9

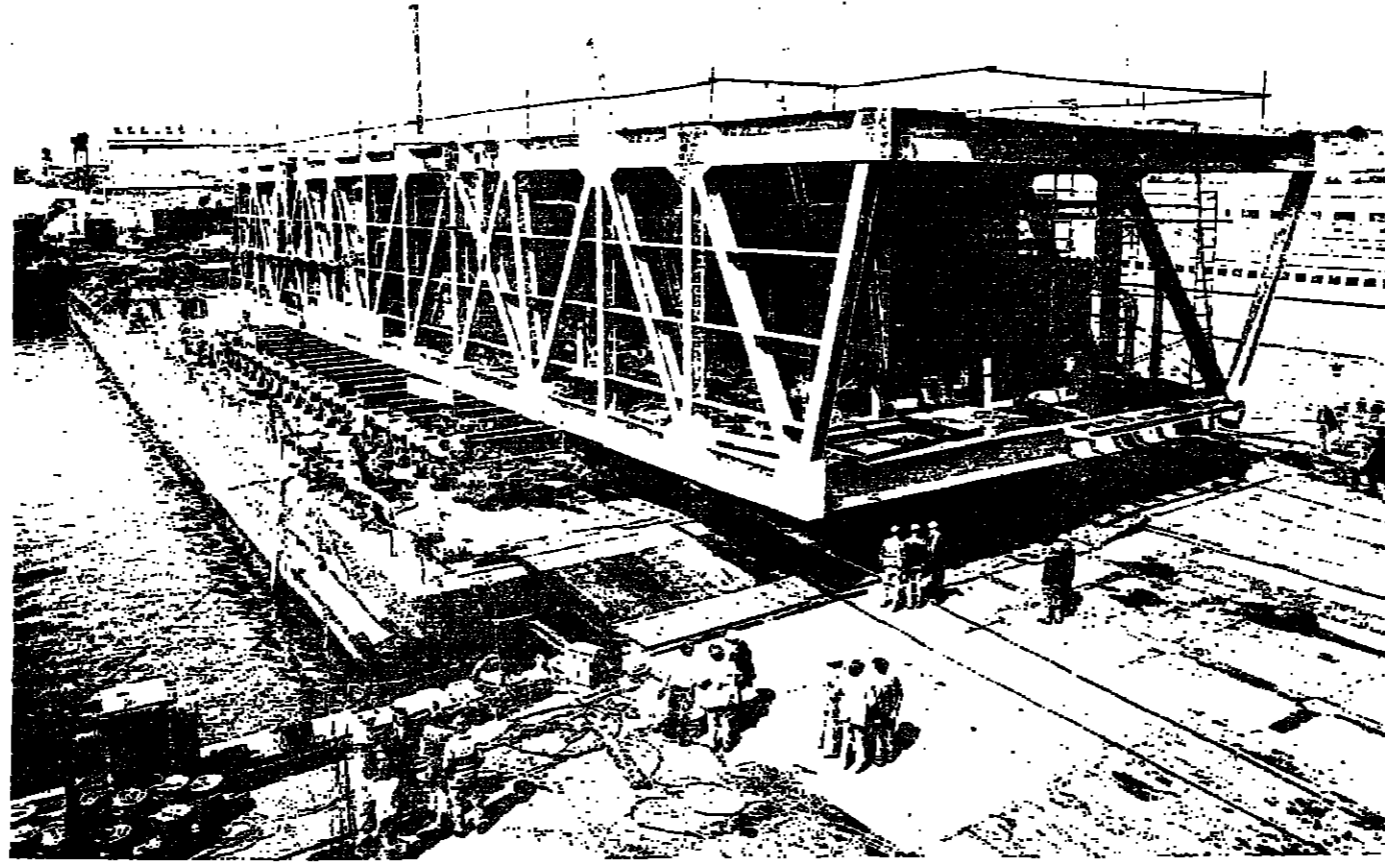
The bidding:  
 South West North East  
 ♠ Pass 3♦ Pass  
 ♥ Pass 4♥ Pass  
 ♦ NT Pass 5♥ Pass  
 ♣ NT Pass 6♣ Pass  
 ♠ Pass Pass Pass  
 Opening lead: Five of ♣.

The most pleasant tournament on the American Contract Bridge League's calendar is the regional championship held each January in Bermuda. Large contingents from Canada and the New England states flock to this island paradise for a brief respite from the wintry chill. Players who have been following the Bols bridge tips would have had an easy time on this deal from the 1977 Bermuda Regional, held at the Southampton Princess. The key play, an "intra-finesse," was the subject of Gabriel Chagas' bridge tip. Although the final contract was not the soundest of undertakings, we can find no fault with the bid-

ding. North was certainly worth a jump to three spades at his first turn, and his fifth trump, second-round club control and ace of diamonds persuaded him to cuebid on the next round. After that, South took over, and settled for a small slam when he discovered that three kings were missing. West led a diamond and declarer was not prepared to risk his contract by running that to his queen—which was just as well. He won the ace of diamonds, and drew trumps in two rounds, ending in his hand. As is evident to the reader looking only at the North-South hands, declarer's problem was to hold his heart losers to one.

He led a low heart and when West followed low without a care, declarer decided to play East for the king—few Wests would have the fortitude to duck smoothly if they held the king. Therefore, declarer inserted dummy's seven. East won the jack and tried to cash the king of diamonds. Declarer ruffed, cashed the ace of clubs and ruffed a club in dummy, and the crux of the hand had been reached. After some thought, declarer made the winning play—he pushed the queen of hearts through East. Whether or not he covered, West's ten would be smothered and the heart suit would be set up for only one loser. Thus the slam rolled home.

## THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



**POWER AHOY!** -- Riding on 640 boggy wheels -- and probably the biggest load ever carried on pneumatic tyres -- a 1,700-ton "one-piece" power station is inched on to a barge for the first stage of its journey from Wallaseid in northeast England to the Claymore Field in the North Sea. There it will be positioned, with three other units, on the production deck of the Claymore 'A' oil production platform. The module is about 45 metres long, 15 metres wide and 9 metres high and contains two generators which will produce some 69 megawatts -- enough to meet the electrical needs of a small town. Also included in the equipment are special installations for the safety of the platform.

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 1977

## Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** An excellent day to think in terms of what you can do to improve your present life by bringing more of the spiritual into your activities. Be more aware of progressive procedures in the future.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Good day to get in touch with good friends and exchange ideas. But don't forget to handle some important business matters.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) Talking part in some community affair can bring much prestige at this time. Avoid one who has given you trouble in the past.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Study your plans for the days ahead and be sure they are practical. Forget some obsession you may have about something.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to July 21) Be more modern in your thinking and get ahead faster. Show more devotion to your mate and increase happiness.

**LEO** (July 22 to Aug. 21) Know exactly what is expected of you by associates and be more enthused in dealing with them. Take it easy tonight.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) A serious talk with associates now will bring more cooperation. Take no risks where your health is concerned.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Find best way to get your business affairs running more smoothly. Then enjoy recreations with mate. Sidestep a troublemaker.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study those changes that should be made in order to have more harmony at home. Handle business matters wisely.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Find more intelligent ways of pleasing those you deal with daily. Don't encroach on the rights of others.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Study your monetary position and find more ingenious ways of adding to your abundance. Stay within your budget.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Discuss your aims with good friends and gain their assistance in gaining them. Strive for increased happiness.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Find more efficient ways of operating in the future. Let your devotion to loved one be true and get excellent response.

**GRAFFITI**  
 3-16  
 1977 Copyright by Graffiti Inc.

...HALLO!  
 IS THIS 6771-2-3-4?  
 I'D LIKE TO RESERVE  
 A SPACE FOR AN AD IN  
 THE JORDAN TIMES...

REDUCE, GIRLS  
 FILLS BUILT  
 LIKE  
 HORSES DON'T  
 GET GROOMS

**LAUGHS FROM EUROPE**

ENGLAND  
 P. White

**THE BETTER HALF** By Barnes

"Remember when I used to spend \$20 and had to ask you to help me carry in the groceries?"

**JUMBLE** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
 by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**DAAGE**  
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**NAPAG**  
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**RECHOM**  
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

**YARLIF**  
 □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print surprise answer here: ○○○○○○

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LUNGE KNACK FUTLE CARBON  
 Answer: Could be important when it comes to tightening your belt—A BUCKLE

**TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE**

**LUCY SHOW : STOCK HOLDER**  
 Having bought a small number of shares, of the bank she works in, Lucy starts acting as if she owned the place.

**MYSTERY MOVIE : PHILIPS GAME**  
 A woman hires killer to murder McMullan, who caused her financial loss when he prodded the police department to purchase a piece of land owned by her.

**MAKE THE JORDAN TIMES WORK FOR YOU**

An advertisement in the Jordan Times will be seen by some 10,000 people in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Don't you have anything to say to them?

To spread your word, contact the Jordan Times advertising department by phone at 67171, or in person at the Jordan Times - Al Ra'i building, on University Road.

**OUT AND ABOUT**

**STEAKHOUSE**  
 First Chinese restaurant in Jordan.  
 First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Ablyyah School or CMS. Tel. 35968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service-order by phone.

**CHINESE RESTAURANT**  
 First Chinese restaurant in Jordan.  
 First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Ablyyah School or CMS. Tel. 35968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service-order by phone.

**QUICK MEAL**  
 Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Tuweibdeh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30616. Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarka and Irbed.

**THE DIPLOMAT**  
 First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 25502. Open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Restaurant, coffee shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

**PEANUTS**

YOU'RE RUNNING AWAY?  
 RUNNING AWAY IS THE EASY WAY OUT, CHARLIE BROWN!

**MUTT AND JEFF**

WHERE'S MISS STRONGSTONE? I'VE LOOKED EVERYWHERE - BUT CAN'T FIND HER!  
 ...MISS STRONGSTONE ON THE WEAK SIDE?!  
 SHE HAD TO USE BOTH HANDS TO MOVE THE SAFE OVER TO THE NEW SPOT!

**THE FLINTSTONES**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY A NEW SPORTS CAR?  
 NO I DON'T DRIVE!  
 A MINK COAT FOR YOUR WIFE?  
 NO, I'M NOT MARRIED!  
 BOX OF CIGARS?  
 I DON'T SMOKE!  
 YOU DID IT AGAIN?  
 HM HM!  
 HUNTING OR FISHING OUTFIT?  
 HUNT OR FISH!  
 SOAP? ONLY SCOT-TWO DOLLARS! ALL RIGHT!

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**  
 1. Blanch  
 2. Exasperated  
 3. Dull surface  
 4. Man's name  
 5. Snice  
 6. --- de France  
 7. Margins  
 8. System  
 9. Stout  
 10. That man's  
 11. New star  
 12. Reduce  
 13. Fault  
 14. Has debts

**DOWN**  
 1. Uncivilized  
 2. Old-womanish  
 3. Cupolas  
 4. Curlycue  
 5. Sailor  
 6. Historical epochs  
 7. Andron  
 8. Sensitive plant  
 9. Young fish  
 10. Lessee  
 11. Amid  
 12. Chop  
 13. Pig  
 14. Dejection  
 15. Home of 21  
 16. Down  
 17. Blanketlike snawi  
 18. Threefold  
 19. Smoothly  
 20. Light-hearted  
 21. Coppice  
 22. Fruit  
 23. Bristol places  
 24. 37 type square  
 25. Monad  
 26. Enzyme  
 27. Presidential nickname

**SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE**

COMA ME INAR  
 ALOW OX RIVE  
 CELL TIRADES  
 HIE BILE ONE  
 ENSLAVED RUN  
 TAPE RA ET  
 IS IT TERM  
 CAR INASMUCH  
 EMU SETS ROE  
 CALUMET DIVA  
 ARES DO ONER  
 PARE SO PERT

ar time 25 min. AP Newsfeatures 3-16



# U.N. water conference reportedly will hear Palestinian case against Israel

MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina, March 15 (Agencies). — The United Nations World Water Conference here seems headed for a political row over Palestinian demands for the return of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

As some 1,000 delegates from 105 countries were working out procedural matters for the 12-day conference yesterday, the delegate of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said he intended to raise formally his nation's territorial claims against Israel.

Mr. Salah Zawawi, PLO representative for Latin America, told Reuters: "I hope this conference will succeed in offering answers to the chronic

problem of water shortage in the world. But we have lost not only water but also the air of our land.

"We want the return of Gaza and the West Bank as a first step towards coexistence and the creation of a new democratic state covering all Palestine."

Mr. Zawawi told Reuters he will make a formal statement as soon as possible. He said he was also planning to hold a press briefing shortly at the water conference site, the Hotel Provincial.

The conference opened yesterday with appeals for international water cooperation and a warning that their importance had not been fully appreciated, AFP reported.

The warning came from U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, who said in a message read to the delegates that it was surprising many strategies had tended to underestimate the role of water, a key element in most programmes aiming to improve human conditions.

Mr. Waldheim said the most urgent need was to supply water for food production and to improve supplies to communities. But "vulnerable" lands had also to be used more intensively while the struggle was waged against floods and drought, he added.

The conference Chairman, Argentine engineer Luis Jauregu, commented that the conservation and profitable use of water were not isolated problems which could be solved by one sector or one region.

Water was a "heritage of hu-

manity," and world governments, through their delegations, had decided to tackle the problem in depth and work out "adequate political options" and future actions, Mr. Jauregu said.

Mr. Jauregu told newsmen after the opening session that access to sufficient drinking water should be recognised a universal human right.

"The ideas exist to solve this crisis, and the technological solutions are not lacking, what matters now, essentially, is the spirit," he said.

Mr. Jauregu hoped the conference would enable the least developed countries to have access to all existing techniques, so they could improve conditions without being prisoners of the "tyranny" of cost-profit ratios.

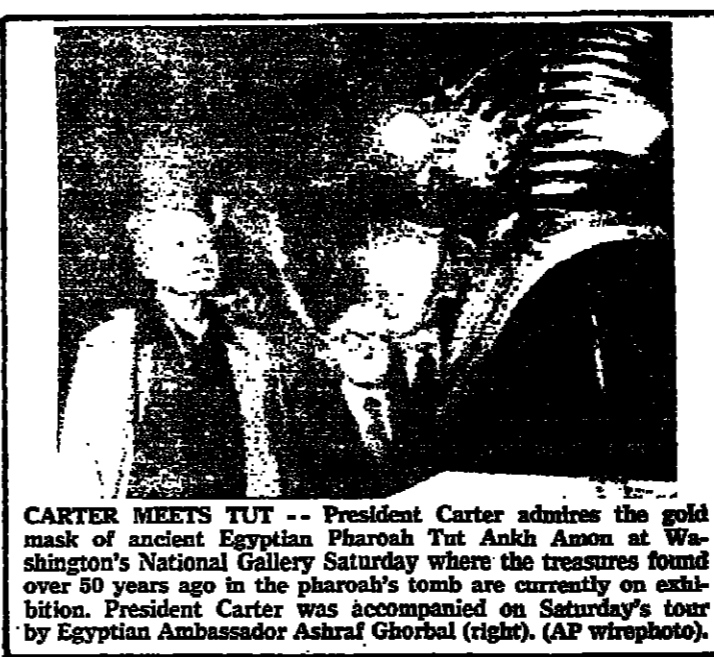
MANILA, March 15 (R). — President Ferdinand Marcos today announced the postponement from March 17 to April 21 of a plebiscite in 13 southern provinces of the Philippines on the establishment of an autonomous region.

The plebiscite, originally set for Feb. 21, has now been postponed following a deadlock in peace talks being held by the government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in Libya.

Mrs. Imelda Marcos, the president's wife, flew to Libya last week to seek the good offices of Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi to break the deadlock.

President Marcos said in a speech today that it was necessary for the people in southern Philippines, where the two million Moslems minority live, to be given more time to study the issues.

The Moro rebels have come out strongly against the holding of a plebiscite.



CARTER MEETS TUT -- President Carter admires the gold mask of ancient Egyptian Pharaoh Tut Ankh Amun at Washington's National Gallery Saturday where the treasures found over 50 years ago in the pharaoh's tomb are currently on exhibition. President Carter was accompanied on Saturday's tour by Egyptian Ambassador Ashraf Ghorbal (right). (AP wirephoto).

# U.S. "considering" Zaire request for military aid

WASHINGTON, March 15 (R). — The United States is considering a request by Zaire for military equipment to help counter an incursion across its border from Angola.

The State Department said yesterday it had been asked for assistance in the form of "material" but declined to give any details. Zaire sources said the request was made in the context of continuing U.S. military aid to the country and may take the form of speeded-up deliveries of equipment already on order.

The United States is currently giving Zaire \$30.5 million worth of military aid, all of it in the form of credits to purchase U.S. hardware. Zaire is also receiving about \$35 million this year in economic aid for use in development projects, food purchases and peace corps assistance.

Zaire quickly informed the United States after the incursion last week on its west border with Angola, but a request for equipment was "very recent," the State Department said.

The incursion occurred in Shaba province, formerly Katanga, and the soldiers had been described in press reports from Zaire as Katanga guerrillas. The term refers to 2,000 to 4,000 soldiers who fought in the Congo civil war on the side of Katanga leader Moïse Tshombe and fled Angola after their defeat in 1965.

Diplomatic sources in Kinshasa said today that the incursion force has killed about 200 Zaire army soldiers. The force reportedly blew up several bridges as Zaire army trucks passed over them.

# Filipino plebiscite postponed to April 21

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The Moro rebels have come out strongly against the holding of a plebiscite.

# Castro has talks with Ethiopians

ADDIS ABABA, March 15 (R). — Cuban Premier Fidel Castro has held talks on bilateral relations between his country and Ethiopia during a visit here, according to the official press today.

But full details of Dr. Castro's unannounced trip, which began yesterday, have not yet been released.

Photographs in the official press showed Dr. Castro arriving at the airport flanked by Ethiopian head of state Lt. Col. Mengistu Haile-Mariam and his deputy, Lt. Col. Atmifu Abate.

Other pictures showed him holding talks with the two Ethiopian leaders and senior government officials and the captions said the talks were on bilateral relations between the two countries.

Dr. Castro's visit, as part of a tour of several African and Arab countries, marks a significant step in efforts by Ethiopia's Marxist military rulers to secure closer ties with Communist states.

Dr. Castro will begin a three-day official visit to Tanzania tomorrow, Tanzania officials in Dar Es Salaam said today.

The government-owned Daily News said in Dar Es Salaam today the state reception for Castro was expected to be the biggest ever for a foreign leader.

No further details of Dr. Castro's visit were immediately available.

# ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

## NATO begins probe into Comecon economy today

BRUSSELS, March 15 (AFP). — The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) tomorrow begins a probe into the economies of the Soviet Union and its six East European partners.

In particular, the investigation will cover the way trade is evolving within their economic community, Comecon, and trade relations between the Warsaw Pact countries and the rest of the world.

The study will be carried out from March 16 to 18 in Brussels by a score of experts from the United States, West Germany, France and Britain.

M. Jacques Billy, head of NATO's Economics Department, said yesterday there was an "easily observable" decline in the growth rates of the countries concerned, and several of them had trade deficits with the West or the rest of the world. But that the integration of the Comecon nations might lead to an improvement in the region's economic performance.

He said: "The lowering of the growth rates is a phenomenon that is developing slowly. The question of the deficits and indebtedness -- which might seem excessive -- has come in to the news over the past few months."

On the theme of "growing deficits", M. Billy said: "They are leading the authorities to coordinate their foreign trade policies. In other words, closer bonds within Comecon would allow a more favourable long-term solution to their external supply problem."

"For example, when East European countries get their energy supplies from the USSR, they are asked to share in the investment effort that will lead to increased output in the future."

M. Billy thought Comecon would be "a pretty integrated economic group by about 1980."

From around 1973-74, the oil price rise and the limited western market, had led the East Europeans to realise they had insufficient export resources and financing.

Consequently they turned to the Soviet Union, which for obvious reasons, could not let them down. The recent Soviet loan to Poland, enabling it to get through a difficult foreign trade period, was "an illustration of this new reality," M. Billy said.

Turning to East-West trade he rejected the idea of withholding technology on the grounds that this know-how could be used against the West.

"This danger certainly exists," he said, "but the West always has a technological lead which is a safeguard in itself, even though this lead is unevenly spread among Western nations."

M. Billy added: "Expansion of East-West trade, especially after the Helsinki agreement, is a logical part of growing international commerce."

"Trade with Comecon represents only 5 per cent of NATO countries' exports and only 3 per cent of their imports."

Nevertheless he should make sure that our commercial policy vis-a-vis the East serves our energy and commodities policy as far as possible.

"We do not appear to devote enough resources and thought to finding a highly diversified cover for our long-term needs."

M. Billy also said: "In regard to armaments, parity with the Warsaw Pact seems to have been attained approximately."

"But as regards economic weapons, it is we who have the advantage. Should we use it in political negotiations or just in economic negotiations? That is a current question, but it is not for me to answer it."

## Mini-Red Sea summit announced

MARCH 15 (AFP). — Heads of state of Somalia, Sudan, and North and South Yemen will meet at Ta'izz in North Yemen next week, Sudanese Foreign Minister Mansour Khaled announced in a statement printed today in the Khartoum newspaper Al Ayyam.

The minister was quoted as saying the summit would be between Presidents Jaafar Nimeiri of Sudan, Lt. Col. Ibrahim Al Hamdi of North Yemen, Mr. Ziad Barre of Somalia and South Yemen head of state Saleem Rubayeh Ali.

Al Ayyam said the leaders would discuss issues of vital importance for enhancing cooperation.

Observers said that because of the countries' proximity to the Red Sea security in the area would dominate the talks.

President Nimeiri meanwhile flew today to Oman accompanied by Mr. Mansour Khaled on a six-day tour which will also include a visit to South Yemen.

According to the Sudanese media, Mr. Nimeiri's Yemen trip was concerned with "coordinating unified action aiming at guaranteeing Red Sea security."

## U.S. House votes to ban chrome imports from Rhodesia

WASHINGTON, March 15 (R). — The U.S. House of Representatives voted yesterday to ban to bow to United Nations actions and stop imports of chrome from Rhodesia's new colony of Botsswana.

President Carter's administration supports the move to repeal a legislative amendment under which the United States has been importing the chrome from Rhodesia since 1974 in defiance of the U.N. sanctions.

Editorial comment -- p. 2 --

The Senate was expected to vote late today on a similar bill aimed at reimposing an embargo on imports of chrome from Rhodesia.

Such dealings are important to the Rhodesian economy, which would be hit by a new U.S. embargo. The Carter administration hopes that a repeal of the amendment will help to prod Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith into negotiations on creating a majority rule in the rebel territory.

## Dr. Waldheim foresees progress in Vienna's Cypriot issue talks

UNITED NATIONS, March 15 (R). — U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said yesterday that forthcoming talks in Vienna offered a chance, for the first time, to make substantive progress towards a settlement of the Cypriot issue.

The sixth round of negotiations between Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot representatives is to begin in the Austrian capital on March 31.

Mr. Waldheim told reporters that reaching a settlement would be a lengthy process, but he thought "something will come out" before the end of the year.

The chief conferees with Archbishop Makarios and Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denkash in Cyprus last month, two weeks after the island's two leaders had held their first meeting for 13 years.

The Vienna talks are expected to include the possibility of creating a federal republic on a bi-communal basis, under a central government.

Other topics likely to be discussed are the independence and political neutrality of Cyprus, a solution of territorial issues on the basis of ownership before the island's independence, freedom of movement of the inhabitants and property ownership.

U.N. observers said they believed that both sides now recognised a need to compromise.

## Hong Kong daily reports meeting between Chairman Hua, Teng after purge of "gang of four" radicals

HONG KONG, March 15 (AFP). — Chinese leader Hua Kuofeng met ousted former Vice premier Teng Hsiao-ping in a Peking hospital shortly after the downfall of the "gang of four", the local Chinese daily Ming Pao said today.

The paper said the two men went to see ailing Marshal Liu Po-cheng separately on Oct. 26, less than three weeks after the arrest of the four radical leaders, including the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung's widow Chiang Ching.

Quoting one of six documents purportedly issued by the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee recently, the daily Ming Pao said that when Mr. Hua arrived at the hospital Mr. Teng was already in Marshal Liu's room. It was the disgraced vice premier, ousted after Peking's Tian An Men Square riots last April, who told the blind marshal that "Chairman Hua is here to see you."

After Mr. Hua took his seat, Mr. Teng said he was leaving. But Mr. Hua stopped him from doing so, adding, "do you think I can push you away?"

According to the paper's report Marshal Liu, one of China's two most respected military men, said: "The era of the gang of four has passed. From now on we must unite together."

The other veteran is Marshal Ye Chieh-ying, the no. 2 man in China's hierarchy.

When Mr. Teng described himself as a "capitalist-roader" Chairman Hua quickly pointed out that the phrase was only coined by the "gang of four" without Chairman Mao's approval.

The 82-year-old marshal asked Mr. Hua to improve his people's living conditions. Mr. Teng urged the chairman to concentrate on agriculture and light industry in the re-democratisation of the country.

It is further claimed that before leaving, Mr. Hua asked the ailing veteran what he needed and the marshal said his last wish was for Mr. Teng to preside over his funeral or remony if he should die because they had been working together for more than 50 years.

Ming Pao expressed the view that Marshal Liu's wish might force the Party Central Committee to quickly decide Mr. Teng's future since more than half of the militarymen now in power had been working under the marshal.

## Concorde's New York court hearings postponed

NEW YORK, March 15 (AFP). — The New York federal court that was to begin hearings on a suit brought by Air France and British Airways to win permission for their Concorde supersonic airliner to land in New York has agreed to postpone the hearings to an unspecified date, it was announced here last night.

The suit is against the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which has so far refused to authorise Concorde to use New York's Kennedy International Airport despite federal government permission for it to do so on a trial basis. The authority manages New York area airports as well as ports and other facilities.

The postponement was jointly requested by attorneys for the two airlines and for the port authority. Spokesmen for the federal court and for Air France said that the delay was aimed at enabling technical experts for the two sides to complete examination of certain studies. A new date for the start of hearings is to be set in the next 10 days.

There has been widespread opposition to Concorde in New York on the grounds of noise pollution. The supersonic aircraft is now using Dulles International Airport outside Washington on a 16-month trial basis, but the federal government runs that airport and no other permission was needed for operation at Dulles.

Last Wednesday a team of technicians representing Air France, British Airways and the builders of Concorde met port authority experts for two hours to explain that the aircraft could better observe the noise limits at Kennedy Airport by using certain runways and takeoff procedures.

At the end of the meeting, the port authority experts said they would "carefully examine" the information submitted by the French and British technicians. So it would seem that British Airways and Air France want to give a little more time to the authority experts.

The airlines probably hope that the latest information will be convincing enough to persuade the port authority to change course and allow the supersonic airliner to land in New York -- at least on a trial basis, as at Dulles.

Meanwhile, in Washington the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reported that the noise level of Concorde while taking-off from Dulles Airport had dropped in February from the levels of the previous months -- though the number of complaints from people living in the area rose from 64 in January to 90 last month.

The report, issued yesterday, said that the average noise made by Concorde in taking-off last month was 116.3 perceived decibels, as against 120.2 in January and an average of 119.6 for the first nine months of service.

As to landings, the average February noise level was 114.1 perceived decibels, slightly up on the 113.2 recorded in January but below the 117.2 representing the average for the first nine months.

In commenting on the rise in the number of complaints last month, observers noted that it might have come from the fact that Concorde got a lot of publicity last month in connection with President Jimmy Carter's statements favouring trial Concorde service to New York, but noting that he had no authority to order such service.

Defenders of the environment living near Dulles may have decided it was a good time to lift their voices in protest.

## February's Saudi oil output was below average again, weekly oil survey says

BAHRAIN, March 15 (R). — Saudi Arabian oil production last month was again well below target and appeared to have averaged about nine million barrels of crude oil a day, according to the authoritative oil weekly MIDDLE East Economic Survey (MEES).

Bad weather which stopped oil shipments from Saudi Arabia's main oil terminal at Ras Tanura in the Gulf was again partly responsible for the country's failure to reach its target of 10 million barrels a day during the first quarter of this year, the Nicosia-based weekly added in this week's issue.

Although official Saudi figures have not yet been published, preliminary indications suggest production by the Arabian American Oil Company (ARAMCO) averaged around nine million barrels a day, the weekly said.

The weekly said that world demand at the moment seemed sufficient to sustain relatively high production rates in both Saudi Arabia and Iran, respectively the world's biggest and second biggest oil exporters.

MEES argued last week that such high demand would tend to lengthen the life of the present two-tier oil price system in force since the beginning of the year.

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## WALL STREET REPORT

Prices managed another good advance Tuesday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average gained nearly 7 points in active trading.

The average had already climbed more than 10 points on Monday and the continuing rally seemed to be fuelled by renewed confidence about the market and the U.S. economy among American investors, especially institutions.

However, waves of profit-taking appeared throughout the session and the market did not close at its highest level of the day. Gainers led losers at the bell by a wide 964 to 507 margin.

Auto issues were strong as car manufacturers issued good sales reports for the first ten days of March. Aluminium, airline and gold mines shares also posted some sizeable gains. Sony was the most active issue today, unchanged at \$10.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 965.09, a gain of 6.73 points; Transp at 227.36, a gain of 2.00; utilities at 106.40, a loss of 0.16. 23,960,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,980,000 during the last hour.

## ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

AMMAN, March 15 (R). — Mr. Taher Tawfiq, Chairman of Iraq's Higher Agricultural Council, yesterday opened the third Technical Conference of Arab Agricultural Engineers, Baghdad Radio reported. The conference is being held under the slogan: "Integration of Arab manpower for rural development," the radio added.

OTTAWA, March 15 (AFP). — Nearly a score of nations have begun talks here on North-West Atlantic fishing in the light of the new 200-mile limit. The chief topic was the future of the International Commission for North-West Atlantic Fishing (ICNAF) which has 17 members. The United States has quit the body but is sitting in as an observer at the present gathering, which opened yesterday. The decision by the U.S. and Canada to extend their fishing limits to 200-miles from last Jan. 1 means that ICNAF loses 90 per cent of the zone it controls, -- and with it, 95 per cent of its catch.

WASHINGTON, March 15 (R). — Petroleum provided nearly half of America's energy in 1976, a year in which total energy use increased by 4.8 per cent after declining in the two previous years, the Interior Department said yesterday. The department said energy use totalled 73,999 trillion British Thermal Units (18,648 trillion kilo-calories), in 1976. The record for energy use is 74,555 trillion units (18,788 trillion kilocalories), set in 1973. Petroleum was the largest energy source, supplying 47.2 per cent of all energy needs. Almost half of this was imported.

KUWAIT, March 15 (R). — Kuwait newspaper and printing press owners have formed a four-million dinar (\$8 million) paper company, it was announced today. The government will have a 30-per-cent stake in the company, whose task will be to import and eventually manufacture paper, the announcement said.

## WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON, March 15 (AFP). — The Soviet Union shipped nuclear arms to the Egyptian Port of Alexandria during the 1973 Mideast war, but decided not to unload them there in the face of American reaction, syndicated columnist Jack Colbert and Bob Owens reported yesterday. Without identifying their sources, the two newsmen said the weapons in question were nuclear warheads that could have been mounted on Soviet ground-to-ground SCUD missiles that had been delivered to Egypt and could have reached Israeli territory.

BRUSSELS, March 15 (AFP). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will meet here with ambassadors of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), on March 26 before he starts his first official visit to Moscow the next day, a U.S. source said here today.

DELGRADE, March 15 (R). — Mr. Veselin Djuranovic, a 51-year-old politician scarcely known outside his native Republic of Montenegro, was today elected Yugoslavia's new Prime Minister. The Federal Assembly, meeting in a special session, endorsed his nomination last month by President Tito. The post of prime minister has been vacant since Mr. Dzemal Bijedic was killed in an air crash on Jan. 18.

TEHRAN, March 15 (R). — The Shah of Iran said today his armed forces will remain non-atomic, but they must be equipped to be more powerful than an atomic force. Iran's extensive borders left no choice but to provide the armed forces their requirements, enabling them to fulfil promptly their national duties anywhere, the monarch told the official Press news agency after reviewing an air display at Khatami airbase in Isfahan, south Iran.

VIENNA, March 15 (R). — A young Romanian was pulled out alive from earthquake rubble in Bucharest today after being entombed for 10 days. The survivor, 19-year-old Mr. Sorin Crainic, was found in the debris of a block of flats destroyed in the devastating Romanian quake on the night of March 4. The Agerpress news agency said he was buried for more than 250 hours without food or water.

## LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market Tuesday closed narrowly mixed after a quiet session, dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. index was down 1.4 at 427.4.

Government bonds were mixed with a fall in money market interest rates making for gains of 1/4 among short- and medium-dated loans. Longer maturities eased around 1/4 on profit-taking.

Equities also met profit-taking but some issues firmed. Unilever gave back 10p of its sharp rise Monday. Gold shares were mixed but with a firmer bias.

A.P. Cement, Fisons, Guest Keen, Hawker, Shell, Tube Investments, Vickers and Metal Box showed net falls of 3p to 7p. J. Lucas, Bowater, Glaxo and ICI firmed between 3p and 5p.

Overseas traders met more interest but some softened on profit-taking. Rio Tinto Zinc and Esperanza were both around 7p up.

Brooke Bond was 1-1/2p easier after half-year profits which were in line with expectations, dealers noted. Judge International advanced to 23p from 11p overnight after the agreed 25p cash offer from BSR, unchanged at 127.

Price of gold closed in London Tuesday at \$146.45/oz.

